

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2011-158-E - ORDER NO. 2011-654
SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

IN RE:	Application Regarding the Acquisition of)	ORDER APPOINTING
	Progress Energy, Inc. by Duke Energy)	HEARING OFFICER
	Corporation and Merger of Progress Energy)	
	Carolinas, Inc. and Duke Energy Carolinas,)	
	LLC)	

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the request filed by counsel for Central Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. and the Electric Cooperatives of South Carolina (Joint Intervenors in this proceeding) for the appointment of a hearing officer in Docket No. 2011-158-E regarding the acquisition of Progress Energy, Inc. by Duke Energy Corporation and the merger of Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC. We hereby grant the Joint Intervenors’ request. This appointment is in order that the hearing officer may dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 58-3-40 (Supp. 2010).

Section 58-3-40(C)(1) states that upon the request of any party or any commissioner, the commission may employ a hearing officer who may hear and determine procedural motions or other matters not determinative of the merits of the proceedings. Under (C)(2), the hearing officer has full authority, subject to being overruled by the Commission, to rule on questions concerning the conduct of the case

and other matters. Under (C)(3), the officer must be an attorney qualified to practice in all courts of this State with a minimum of eight years' practice experience.

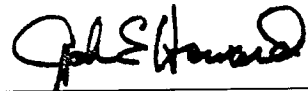
We find that Joseph M. Melchers, Esquire, meets these qualifications, and we hereby appoint Mr. Melchers as hearing officer in Docket No. 2011-158-E. As hearing officer in this proceeding, we direct Mr. Melchers to rule on appropriate matters in the case and dispose of procedural and evidentiary matters for this proceeding.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. Joseph M. Melchers, Esquire, is hereby appointed as hearing officer in Docket No. 2011-158-E for disposition of procedural and evidentiary matters in this proceeding regarding the acquisition of Progress Energy, Inc. by Duke Energy Corporation and merger of Progress Energy Carolinas, Inc. and Duke Energy Carolinas, LLC.

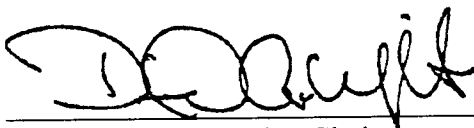
2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



John E. Howard, Chairman

ATTEST:



David A. Wright, Vice Chairman
(SEAL)